ultrasound machines are sealed and seized for violation of the provisions of the Act.

It is, nevertheless, recognized that mere legislation is not enough to deal with this problem that has roots in social behaviour and prejudices. Various activities have been undertaken to create awareness against the practices of pre-natal determination of sex and female foeticide through Radio, Television, and print media units. Workshops and seminars have also been organized through Voluntary Organisations at State/regional/district/block levels to create awareness against this social evil. Cooperation has also been sought from religious leaders, as well as medical fraternity to curb this practice. A 'Save the Girl Child' Campaign with a view to lesion son preference by highlighting achievements of young girl has been launched. At the same time, sensitization of the Medical Community and Training of Judiciary for better implementation of the Act is being done. National Surveillance Cell is being constituted to assist the Appropriate Authorities of problem states such as Punjab, Haryana, Gujarat and Delhi in identifying the wrongdoers and in apprehending them.

Applications pending for starting private medical colleges in Karnataka

1362. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of proposals from private managements for starting medical colleges in Karnataka, pending with Government;

(b) whether it has come to the notice of Government that MCI has recommended for giving approval to some private managements to start medical colleges in Karnataka;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) which are the medical colleges of private managements awaiting clearance from Government; and

(e) whether Government would take steps to accord permission during 2005-06?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) One such proposal is pending with the Government.

(b) and (c) On the recommendations of Medical Council of India, Central Government has given permission for starting of Raja Rajeshwari Medical College at Bangalore by Thai Moogambigai Charitable Trust, Bangalore with intake of 100 students during the year 2005-06.

(d) S.S. Institute of Medical Sciences at Davangere, Karnataka.

(e) Grant of permission for establishment of new medical college is subject to the college fulfilling the required facilities as per the MCI Regulations. Since, the time schedule prescribed in the Regulations of MCI for grant of permission for establishment of new medical college for the academic year 2005-06 is 15th July, 2005 and that the Supreme Court in the case of Mridul Dhar V/s Union of India has decided that the time schedule prescribed in the Regulations is to be adhered to, it is not possible to give permission for the current academic year.

Spurious medicine manufacturers

†1363. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of companies found indulged in the manufacturing of spurious medicines during the last five years;

(b) the number of companies out of these against which action has been taken; and

(c) the details of steps being taken by the Government to check such practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Manufacture and sale of spurious/counterfeit drugs is primarily a clandestine activity. To this extent, it is difficult to detect the manufacture or movement of spurious drugs.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.